

Latta News Department

Conducted by W. Ellis Bethea

Coming and Going

S. L. Smith of Oak Grove was here Saturday.
P. C. Dew of Elberry was here Saturday.
P. A. George of Elberry was here Saturday.
H. T. Hartley of Brownsville was here Saturday.
R. B. Lane of Temperance was here Saturday.
J. A. Galloway of Mallory was here Saturday.
Rev. J. L. Mullinix of Bingham was here Saturday.
J. S. Fair of Oak Grove was here Saturday.
Burt McLaurin of Floydale was here Saturday.
Crawford Lane of Temperance was here Saturday.
John C. Hayes of Elberry was here Saturday.
G. G. McLaurin of Dillon was here Saturday.
N. B. Hargrove of Dillon was here Saturday.
F. B. Watson and daughter of Antioch were in town on Saturday.
Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Berry, Jr. and children were in town Saturday.
J. C. Manship of Elberry was in town Saturday.
J. G. Ellen of Free State was here Saturday.
D. S. Rogers of Free State was here Saturday.
E. W. Allen of Clio was here Saturday.
Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Coleman of Elberry were here Saturday.
W. E. Allen of Dalcho was here Saturday.
Marion Allen of Free State was here Saturday.
Mrs. Jacqueline Sellers of Sellers was in town Saturday.
Mrs. L. C. Bass and Mrs. W. L. Rogers were in Floydale Saturday.
Miss Eva Culbreth of Sellers spent last week here.
L. B. Rogers of Dothan was here Thursday.
J. P. Hodges of Brownsville was here Thursday.
John Hargrove of Dillon was here Thursday.
W. A. Godbold of Estill, S. C., is here visiting relatives.
E. L. Moore of Dillon was here on Wednesday.
Hon. J. W. Hamer of Little Rock was here Wednesday.
Mrs. Tracey E. and Walter Fore of Elberry were here Wednesday.
Mrs. W. J. Galloway of Mallory was here Thursday.
C. H. Gasque and Dock McKenzie of Zion were here Thursday.
S. C. Taylor of Floydale was here Thursday.
J. C. Allen of Elberry was here Thursday.
M. D. Edwards of Marion was here Thursday.
Eugene Berry of Elberry was here Thursday.
Pratt Watson who runs a store at Sellers was here Thursday.
Fitz Norton of Mullins passed through here Thursday.
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Bethea of Dillon were here on Friday.
Mr. John Rose, a cotton dealer, of Fayetteville, was here Friday.
Judge McCutcheon of Dillon was here Friday.
Franklin Johnson of Temperance was here Friday.
Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Turbeville of Temperance were here Friday.
Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Edwards and children of Mullins spent the week-end with relatives here.
Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Burden and Mrs. W. J. Summerlin were in Floydale on Saturday.
Mrs. H. A. Edwards and son, Luther, spent Saturday in Florence with relatives.
Mrs. F. L. Carpenter and son, Lafon, and Mrs. T. C. McGee were in Dillon Saturday.
Mrs. A. S. Manning of Columbia is visiting her mother, Mrs. Marion Allen.
Miss Hope Manning is visiting her sister, Mrs. C. E. Bethea, in Wilmington, N. C.
Miss Flora Belle McLeod and Miss Agnes Davis of Elberry were visiting friends in town Sunday.
Miss Lillian Bethea spent Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Sellers of Sellers.
B. F. Farmer of Wilson, N. C., is visiting his nephew, Mr. W. J. Summerlin.
Frank Ellerbe has gone to Tampa, Fla., with the American League as one of their expert baseball players.
W. W. Bethea of Clausen, Florence County, was visiting relatives here during the past week.
J. W. Humphries of Union, S. C., was here visiting his son, R. R. Humphries, during the past week.
Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Bethea of Sellers spent the day with Mr. and Mrs. W. Ellis Bethea Thursday.
H. E. McGee of Anderson after spending several days with his son, Dr. T. C. McGee, has returned home.
Geo. J. Bethea of Tatum was a smiling visitor among his old friends Thursday.
Mrs. John J. Allen attended the Harrison-Burch wedding in Hartsville last week.
Mrs. O. J. Fenegan visited her brother, T. J. Cottingham of Lake City last week.
Thelford V. Brown has gone to Charlotte on a motorcycle, with the view of making arrangements to attend school at that place.

Mrs. W. S. Hyatt spent a day in Florence visiting her mother, Mrs. J. B. Porter, who is sick at the Florence Infirmary.

Marion McMillan, a student of Wofford College is spending the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. McMillan.

Mrs. Gordon Wells and children of Florence spent Saturday with Mrs. Wells parents, Mr. and Mrs. Silvester Pope.

W. J. Summerlin returned from Wilson, N. C., Sunday night, where he has been for treatment for about two weeks.

M. H. Blum bought the bankrupt stock of W. C. Parham for \$21,500.00. This did not include real estate and about 50 bales of cotton.

Mrs. E. L. Powell and her daughter, Miss Myra, passed through here on the way to Dillon to see Mrs. Lutie Bethea, who is sick.

Mrs. Houston Manning and little daughter, Miss Mary Moore Stoneburner, Estelle Ellerbe, Gertrude Manning and O. J. Zeigler were in Marion on Saturday. Miss Stoneburner spent the week-end with a friend of hers in Marion.

Miss Bessie Rowell who for the past several weeks, has been under treatment in Wilmington, N. C., has improved sufficiently to return to her home in Marion and now hopes to soon be back at her place in the Farmers & Merchants bank here at Latta.

All members of the Pee Dee Chapter U. D. C. who expect entertainment at the County Federation at Dillon on April 9th, must send their names to our secretary, Mrs. T. C. McGee at once. Signed, Mrs. Walter E. Bethea, Pres.

All ladies who are members of the Civic League and who expect to attend the Federation of Womens Clubs in Dillon, April 9th, must send their names in to Mrs. T. C. McGee, our secretary, at least ten days before said meeting, so that their names can be sent to the secretary in Dillon. Signed, Mrs. W. Ellis Bethea, Pres.

Social Events in Latta.

S. J. Bethea, Jr., and Miss Ellen Murph of the faculty of the Fork High School, were married Sunday afternoon, March 20th in Latta by the bridegroom's father, Rev. S. J. Bethea.

Most attractive and unique was the Gingham Party Thursday afternoon given by Mrs. N. E. McNair. The invitations requested that each guest wear a gingham gown, therefore bright and spring like indeed was the assembly of gingham clad guests. The reception room was decorated in graceful wisteria blooms, wisteria being the color of the bulb and candle shades. Announcing that a contest was to ensue, the hostess passed a bag of gingham samples, by which means, patterns were secured, then was a contest consisting of puzzles, each to be awarded by the name of some clothing material. Tying in this for the first prize were Mrs. W. H. Smith and Mrs. S. E. Fenegan. Mrs. Fenegan being the lucky one, was presented with a dainty gingham tea apron. Mrs. J. F. Rogers and Mrs. P. C. Henry tied for the consolation, a silver thimble, and this was finally awarded Mrs. Henry. Dainty refreshments were served by the hostess, assisted by Mrs. D. B. Shine and Miss Crumie Bethea.

News Items of Interest in and Around Latta.

The First Annual Declamation and Reading Contest of the Latta High School was held in the school auditorium Tuesday evening, March 15, at 8 o'clock. Four speakers represented the boys and four the girls. Prizes were offered by the Bank of Latta and the Farmers and Merchants Bank. Each prize consisted of a \$10 deposit slip in the savings department of the banks. This money will remain in bank drawing compound interest until the winners finish college, or reach the age of 21. This year the Bank of Latta gave the prize to the boy winner and the Farmers and Merchants Bank to the girl winner. Each year the banks will alternate with the boy and girl. The program for the evening follows:

Prayer—Rev. E. C. Bailey.

Boys' Contest.

1st Speaker—Carlisle Major; Subject—"I am an American."

2nd Speaker—Wade McMillan; Subject—"Regulus to the Carthaginians."

3rd Speaker—Robert Broadhurst; Subject—"Sparticus to the Gladiators."

4th Speaker—Jack Floyd; Subject—"The New South."

Piano Solo—Miss Ida Fenegan.

Girls' Contest.

1st Speaker—Miss Mae Brady; Subject—"The Death Disc."

2nd Speaker—Miss Josephine Major; Subject—"The Aspiring Dishwasher."

3rd Speaker—Miss Mary Stackhouse; Subject—"His Father's Son."

4th Speaker—Miss Evelyn Stafford; Subject—"The Mallet's Masterpiece."

Piano Solo—Miss Anna Margaret Williams.

The judges decided in favor of Robert Broadhurst and Miss Mae Brady.

Judges: Mr. W. D. Roberts, Misses Ruth Allen and Mae Edenfield, all of the Dillon school.

Supt. W. H. Hand to Address Dillon County Teachers.

R. T. Fairley, President of the Dillon County Teachers' Association, makes the announcement that Prof. W. H. Hand, Superintendent of the Columbia City Schools and former State High School Inspector, will make an address before the members of the Association at the regular meeting April 2, 1921. Prof. Hand is known as one of the best public school men of the State and always has something worth-while to tell his fellow teachers. The public is cordially invited to attend this address.

A Letter from T. M. Carrington Richmond, Va., to F. Watkins.

Dear Sir:—The absolute importance of reducing the acreage of bright tobacco is becoming more and more in evidence every day.

There is no demand whatever for low grades and will not be to any appreciable extent until conditions in Central Europe become more stabilized and their commercial and financial situation very much improved, and there is nothing now to give any encouragement that this will take place anywhere in the near future. As this chaotic condition continues, the necessities of life will become more and more an essential to Europe and tobacco and cotton must wait.

There being two years' supply of common tobacco now on hand will result in low grades of tobacco continuing to be way below the cost of production, and the only salvation is to have a half a crop planted, which will possibly make from ten to fifteen per cent per acre than a full planting, with every reason to believe that the result of this reduction in planting will be good to fine tobacco, which is the only kind that there is any chance of being in good demand. Therefore, every farmer should take this into serious consideration and feel that the only way to have a reduction is for everybody to reduce.

Tobacco Asso. of the U. S.

DIVORCE.

Divorce in America is a conspicuous sign of the decline of those virtues upon which Anglo-Saxon society rests. In the year 1886 there were 1886 divorces; in 1906 there 72,000; in 1916 there were 112,000 or about eleven per cent of the total number of marriages. Since our women have gone into politics you may expect the number to increase until this menace of woman suffrage breaks down under its own infernal weight. And break down it will if the world does not continue down grade. Marriage is proportionately on the decline and divorce on the increase. The women think the men are politically afraid of them; but it is not politics that scares us, it is the question of morals and the security of a happy home. As things now stand more than one out of nine marriages end in divorce. It is almost dangerous to ask a woman these days anything about her husband unless you happen to know they are living together. Now there are causes for such a state of affairs. We shall not speak of man's part because there are comparatively few men worthy of the esteem of the best women, and there are good women as well as good men; but we are concerned just now about what part the women contributed to divorce. In the first place, the average girl has little or no home training by neither mother or father. The father is a stranger to his daughter and the mother pushes her into so called "society" which is often the vestibule of immorality. Then the girl soon becomes familiar with a two legged monster of iniquity in the person of some man whose evil passions have been aroused by the constant sight of half clad women. Women are no fools when it comes to inviting the male sex to temptation! When this is not the case some of these pampered and petted girls marry poor men and they still try to play rich until their husbands either have to leave the home or steal the money to buy all the new fashions the wife wants; consequently, the divorce. Many of the girls are so fast while single that marriage is the result of passion rather than admiration and love. After marriage the secret sins of single women are exposed and the result is the same. This is plain talk but it is time to talk plain! And to tell young women that they must be obedient to the laws of decent society or pay the penalty. We know that some men are just animals, and that no respectable woman could tolerate one of them. But it is up to the women of America to mitigate their sorrows and lessen crime. If the women would keep men always, and all of them, at a respectable distance; if they would stop flirting with one man and trying to marry another, if they would put on some decent clothing and cover their nakedness; if they would shut down on indecent moving picture shows; if they would quit their familiarity with the men; if they would stop wanting a whole store and squeezing a poor man into stealing; if they would be modest, courteous to their parents and listen to advice; if they would keep away from temptation when most liable to be tempted; if they would stop tempting the opposite sex, then and not until then will

divorce be lessened. We read of a number of cases of rape all over the country and we venture the statement that half of them are traceable to the fact that white women do not wear enough clothes to hide their persons. No wonder that both white men and negroes are in the business—dragged into it by temptation—the crimes of the whites being concealed, smothered and the negroes executed by some of the very men that allow their daughters to dress nudely. Even among our religious and very best women we observe them, too, tugging at their dresses all the time conscious and God-convinced that they ought to be ashamed of themselves. Some of us who are much married, some of us who are growing old, some of us who are sufficiently grown in grace to be beyond such temptations, are interested in our helpless sons whose future will be ruined by such women. God have mercy upon us and our sons.

E. C. Bailey.

The Latta High School Ball Team.

The Latta High School baseball team met a few weeks ago and elected the following officers for the present season: Wade McMillan for captain and T. C. Bailey for manager. They could not have found two better boys in the whole state for these positions. Enough for these sterling youths for the present. "Citizens of Latta" this is to you, each and every one. This team does not belong to the High School. No it doesn't belong to the school at all, but it is your team. It belongs to you, to each and every one of you. What are you going to make it? Are you going to sit idly by and let it go lacking? I don't think that you are. Wouldn't you like for your school to get back its place in baseball that it once held? Wouldn't you like to have the best team in the Pee Dee section? Yes, in the whole state? Well it simply can't do unless you make it so. How can you, did you say? Simply by supporting your team. When a representative comes around and asks for help what are you going to do? When we have a game on the campus, couldn't you close down your business about one dull afternoon a week and go out and give them your support? These boys are putting their time and every cent of money they can get to put you (yes you) out a good team.

Ladies, this is for you too. You are voting citizens of Latta now so bring your husbands out to see your son participate in a clean game of athletics. Or if you are not fortunate enough to have a son on the team, just come out and help the neighbors. The team is very fortunate in having every boy of last year's team back with the exception of Lacy Johnson. You know each player by reputation with the exception of two or three, but a word about them here would not be amiss. Wade is the boy that is right there with the goods and is found in every play that comes anywhere near his territory and in batting he is among the tops. There is T. C., the fast third baseman who played ball all of last year, and who topped the climax by knocking a homer against the swift Marion pitchers last year which tied the score. We expect some real baseball from these two lads this year. Then there is Jack the all round boy who catches, pitches and even holds second base like an old leaguer. He won fame last year as captain, by batting and pitching his boys to victory over that puzzling Marion team. He will probably hit the pill for us this year, being relieved occasionally. He is known as the boy that can't be rattled winning or losing. He sticks to his job. Then there is that long, gangly, lean boy better known among his admirers as "Slim Kirby Touts" or most any other name so long as you don't rub him wrong way call him, for he doesn't care. He is the boy that is at home at every game for he is holding down the home plate this year. John S., we are expecting you to catch more strikes and fowls this year than all the other boys put together. Then there is Tracey who makes a Chinese puzzle out of himself everytime he goes at a ball, but instantly we hear the glad tidings floating through the air from the umpire saying "you're out" for Tracey generally puts himself in the way of the ball and only about one out of a 1000 ever goes by. He holds down first base as you know. Then there is the little red headed lad on second who blushes every time he puts out a runner for he knows how it feels to be put out himself. In fact he is blushing continually for he has the habit of putting a fellow out when that fellow wants to be safe. He is also a catcher who no one is ashamed of, and too he is breezing out as a pitcher this year. We are all watching your blushes this year Ira. Then there is Carl who likes to play near the girl's court which is right field. He is the boy who stands up with his arms folded kind of indifferent like when a ball is hit away up nearly out of sight which looks like a homer with three on, till the ball hits "ker-spit" in his glove. You are out. The game is over. The score 4 to 3 Latta. Then there is Duncan who is the center of attraction. I mean he plays center field. He is the little boy of the team but that is nothing against him for he can't help it. He has been growing lots since last year and he is doing his best to grow some more. Oh no not in stature but in baseball. He saved some hard looking balls last year and we are expecting some good work from him this year. Then comes the new boy in left field. We can't say much about him for we don't know much about him but what we do know sounds mighty good to us. He plays out in the cotton field, and from the way he hollars sometimes you don't know whether he is playing real baseball or cotton field baseball which we all have played once upon a time. He has never played much ball, but you can tell from his talk that he is just from Edgefield where they have plenty of rocks, and we all think that he got his train-

ing by throwing rocks at sparrows. He too breezes up around the pitchers' plate. We think that he must get someone away out there in the cotton field so he comes up now and then to associate with the umpire. Then there is his big brother Bill who is waiting and anxious every minute to make a home run or catch a long fly. He works hard and is willing to do anything anybody wants him to if it will help the team any. We are expecting some good ball playing out of Bill before the season is over. Then there is Graham who is a new fellow in the game this year. He is a good fielder, for if he gets anywhere near the ball, and he generally does, he devours it just like it was a yam potato with the exception he uses his hands instead. Last but not least is M. D. You all know this lad. Any boy that can make two bases on a strike out after galling the first baseman about five minutes must have the left hind foot of a grave yard rabbit in his pocket. No team could do without such a boy as M. D. We are expecting more of that stuff this year. Well we think that you ought to know the boys by name; do you know anything about how our boys play ball? Well, why don't you. Don't you care? We have played one game this season. We were defeated 5 to 4. We took it like men. Did you help us to do that well, for it was a good game considering or did the lack of your support keep us from doing better? Now men of Latta you know that it takes some to run a baseball team. We know that the times are hard and we are not expecting for a few to do it all but if every man in Latta will help a little, we will put out a team that you won't be ashamed of. So don't wait till some one comes to you for help but just hand it to Mr. Ziegler or Mr. Fairley and we will appreciate it very much and above all things come to the games. It's not but 25 cents, and cheer your boys to victory. We appreciate what you have done for us in the past and thanking you in advance for what you are going to do for us in the future.

Latta High School Ball Team.

ENGLAND AND AMERICA

The destinies of these two countries are the same. They both stand or fall together. Why there should be any feeling existing between these two countries is traceable, we believe, to ignorance both on the part of Americans and English alike. Unless we allow our country to be flooded with undesirable immigrants there is as much probability of these two countries going to war as there is for Chinaman to become an Anglo-Saxon. No! England and America have had their first and last war. The Americans are not afraid of England because we do not realize the strength of England; England is not afraid of America because she knows more about history and knows that the American people have too much sense, as a nation to ever come in conflict with her, for in so doing we would forever cripple our own interests. Both our country

and England are of the same stock; blood is thicker than water; both are Anglo-Saxons and they are destined, because of their brains and God's favor, to rule and dominate and finally to take complete possession of the whole earth. The rest of the nations can kick as much as they please but this does not change what we believe to be the eternal decree of God. Therefore, a league of nations is bordering on foolishness. The increased wealth of this country is going at the pace of two billion dollars per month; our entire wealth is estimated at two hundred and fifty billion dollars, a small estimate. The wealth of England, if we mistake not even exceeds that, for "at the close of the sixteenth century the Anglo-Saxons had not a single inch of territory outside of the British Isles, and only then half of the main British Island and a piece of Ireland. At that time the Latin races controlled the civilized world. But "now England controls nearly one third of the entire globe." And more than a third of the world's wealth is in their possessions upon which the sun never sets. England is about the size of Alabama. They have colonies on every island and continent of the seas. If we Americans want a big navy to fight England, then we are wasting money, time and talent; for there will be no war between us. And if there was, I cannot see how we could be successful in fighting a third of the globe, with Canada on top of our heads. You see England of today and England of 1776 is an entirely different proposition. Germany rendered us a great service in uniting the Anglo-Saxon world and placing England and her little daughter in closer relations than before. If the truth was known these two countries have always made a league that will culminate in the supremacy of these two countries. When Queen Victoria was asked by the Prince of India to explain England's power, she said not a word, but handed him a copy of the Bible which told the tale. If we are not afraid of a Bible-people we had better be, for the winning side is on God's side—that is history, pure and simple. We love our dear America, but we are realizing her danger, if she forgets God! Just why some American soldiers did not like the English people is traceable to the fact that the people are very refined and conservative and unless one knows them he cannot appreciate their real worth. The English soldiers that visited this country made an everlasting impression upon reflecting minds. England, as a nation, loves America just as a mother loves her own child. We love England, and if we are ever in a strait we will know from whom help will come. Don't you ever let anybody fool you that America and England will ever oppose each other. The Irish question is already settled in England and if not in Ireland; for England is not going to lose anything that God gives to her. God bless our dear old mother.

E. C. Bailey.

Farmers and Merchants Bank

Capital - \$100,000.00
Surplus - \$125,000.00

OLDEST — STRONGEST — BEST

Increase Your Farm Profits

USE

Armour's

BIG CROP
Fertilizers

"True to Name"

E. L. MOORE, Dillon, S. C.
W. J. SUMMERLIN, . . . Latta, S. C.

Special Representatives